Improvement in postal services in the country

1484. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently contemplated measures to improve the postal services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a cell of eminent persons would also be set up to monitor the postal efficiency;

(d) if so, the composition of the cell and by when it will start functioning; and

(e) to what extent postal services are likely to be improved as a result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following are some of the contemplated measures to improve the postal services:

(i) To motivate the postal employees, it is proposed to give the Best Postman Award on quarterly basis for each of Postal Division in the country;

(ii) To take steps to improve the stamp impressions on articles of mail;

(iii) To monitor the punctuality and efficiency of the service periodically;

(iv) To instal the multipurpose computerised counter machines at 4000 post office counters;

(v) Monitoring the delivery system in the rural areas.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) The afforts to improve the Postal Services is a continuing process which depends not only on the measures taken by the Department but also on the efficiency of the infrastructural services namely Roadways, Railways and the Airlines. It also depends upon the Discipline, productivity and output of the staff in a whole range of Manual Operations. The above measures and those listed under (b) above are likely to improve the postal services.

Operational efficiency in DTC depots

1485. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the operational efficiency of some of the DTC Bus Depots such as, Vasant Vihar, Okhla, Hari Nagar, Mayapuri, Naraina and Bawana etc. has been going down since 1990-91 as compared to previous years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the trips missed by these depots during the last three years and during the current year so far, year-wise, and depot-wise;

(d) what steps have been taken or are being taken against the Depot Managers resposible therefor; and

(e) the details of the route rationalisation carried out on routes operated by those Depots during the last fourteen months and the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The operational efficiency has declined due to disturbed conditions and increase of overaged fleet since 1990-91 as compared to previous years.